

**KEY PENINSULA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 439, VAUGHN, WA 98394**

To: Washington State Redistricting Commission
1063 Capitol Way South, Suite 16
PO Box 40948
Olympic, WA 98504-0948

Date: October 10, 2011

The Key Peninsula Business Association (KPBA) strongly encourages the commission to keep the Key Peninsula portion of Pierce County in the 26th Legislative District. As a non-political organization of local business owners we are concerned about the negative consequences of having the Key Peninsula moved into the 35th LD.

The KPBA asks the commission to consider these important reasons for keeping the Key Peninsula within the 26th LD:

The Key Peninsula is contiguous with the Kitsap County portion of the 26th LD.

The Key Peninsula has regular business relationships with the Kitsap County portion of the 26th LD and the Gig Harbor Peninsula which will remain in the 26th LD while having only minimal relationships with Mason County and the 35th LD.

The Peninsula School District will remain entirely within the 26th LD if the Key Peninsula is kept in the 26th LD.

The Key Peninsula like Gig Harbor and southern Kitsap County share the transportation issues of the Narrows Bridge and the state ferries. These are important issues for the 26th LD but are smaller concerns in the 35th LD.

It is much easier for constituents on the Key Peninsula to meet with their representatives if it is kept in the 26th LD since travel to their offices and to public forums is easier.

The Key Peninsula is located in Pierce County and joins with Gig Harbor to gain support in the 26th LD. If changed to the 35th LD the Key Peninsula will be the only portion of Pierce County in the 35th LD losing the base necessary to voice Pierce County specific issues.

The people of the Key Peninsula have struggled to attain representation in the legislature and have succeeded in developing strong relationships with the 26th LD Legislators. If the area is changed to the 35th LD, this work will have to restart with the disadvantages of lacking close relationships with the rest of the 35th LD and of being physically removed from it.

Please consider these concerns when developing the final district map and maintain the Key Peninsula in the 26th LD.

Sincerely,

**Edward C. Robison, President
Key Peninsula Business Association**